Message Text

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R 010114Z DEC 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: CREDENTIALS RECOGNITION, US-GERMANY

- 1. WHEN GERMAN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON HEW SECRETARY WEINBERGER JULY 19, FORMER RAISED, IN GENERAL TERMS, DESIRABILITY OF ACHIEVING SYSTEM OF MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY CREDENTIALS. WEINBERGER INDICATED US WAS KEEN TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF MAKING SUCH EXCHANGE OF CREDENTIALS SMOOTHER AND MORE EFFECTIVE.
- 2. GERMAN EMBASSY NOV 27 REQUESTED DEPT'S. VIEWS THIS PROBLEM AND INQUIRED IF ASST. SEC. RICHARDSON WOULD BE PREPARED DISCUSS IT AT JANUARY 10/11 TALKS IN BONN.
- 3. WE ADVISED GERMAN EMBASSY NOV 30 AS FOLLOWS:

DEPARTMENT ALWAYS INTERESTED IN FACILITATING EXCHANGE OF SCHOLARS BETWEEN U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES. TO EXTENT THAT RENEWED LOOK AT CREDENTIALS EXCHANGE COULD ASSIST IN THIS PROCESS, AND, IN TERMS OF SECRETARY WEINBERGER MAKE IT "SMOOTHER AND MORE EFFECTIVE," WE ARE WHOLEHEARTEDLY BEHIND SUCH EFFORT. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF WELL-KNOWN DIFFICULTIES RESULTING FROM DIFFERENCES IN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS OF TWO COUNTRIES AND LACK OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY

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THIS FIELD, WE BELIEVE IT INITIALLY IMPORTANT TO CRYSTALLIZE EXISTING PROBLEMS. IT MIGHT BE INITIALLY EXPLORED WHETHER PRAGMATIC METHODS COULD BE EMPLOYED TO MEET EXISTING NEEDS. WE WOULD WELCOME DISCUSSION OF ACTUAL PROBLEM AREAS IN THIS FIELD DURING JANUARY MEETING IN BONN SO THAT TWO DELEGATIONS MIGHT, AS A STARTER, OBTAIN A CLEARER VIEW OF THE PROBLEMS ACTUALLY ENCOUNTERED BY SCHOLARS. RUSH

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